

DOLL TALK

FOR
COLLECTORS

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FUNNY BUSINESS



Those Odd Materials dollies have sort o' accumulated again; "Poppy" has been here since early last Fall with never a word about her to anyone. There are enough starfish bathing beauties, Princess Sioux and those amazing Mahatma's with snapdragon pod heads to tell about, so, when "Inky Dink" and "Dudu" came in (fifty strong) the other day, the die became cast. We shall here and now again write regarding these inexpensive but definitely conversation piece dolls.

"Poppy" is a comic valentine if ever a doll was one! She is completely fashioned of poppy pods, big Oriental ones, with small garden type for head, blouse, sleeves, skirt, shoes, with even a silly little hat posey. A bit of black paint is effectively dabbed on for hair, features with red for mouth and ruffling on her bleach tint garments. Three inch size, made by Emma Jean Tunstall. No. 64, 75c.

Inky Dink and Inky Dudu, who were credited with precipitating this story, are the pertest little rascals. Really these 3¼ inch children do look brimful of mischief. Ever so neatly made with black cloth faces, frizzed yarn hair and spanking clean blue and white clothes, they are constructed of wish bones! We wondered if Mrs. Loy, who made these odd material dolls, had to eat a hundred chickens of exact size to get such identical frames. No. 183 for Dink and 183A for his playmate—95c each.

Corky, the cutie, looks like his sketch and is all bobbles and buoyancy! His gob hat is white felt, his height 4 inches, No. 32, and price, \$1.50.

Popcorn Doll—Her history begins in an Iowa cornfield from which only dainty nubbins were culled for "Princess Sioux." The husk over-robe is painted as sketched above, and that base is a circlet fitted 'round like the bezel

on a jewel. About 4 inches tall, No. 67, special, 50c.

Versatile Zella Layton, one of our top favorites, works with so many unbelievable materials down in her Florida habitat. Her lovable "Tidewater Tess" is on our envelope this time and then there is "Peachie," "Lucy Limpet" and "Nina Plumosa," all miniatures endowed with Layton artistry.

Peachie looks like an old-fashioned outdoor beauty with a muff and a tippet, but according to her pedigree page that brown muff is a wee cone from the Australian pine, her bonnet an acorn cup, plum seed face, prune pit jacket and a big draped and puckery peach stone for her full skirt, and painted face. No. 190L, 2½" to 3½," \$2.95.

Miss Limpet's skirt is a succession of limpet shell flounces and her arm bouquet consists of tiny shell roses. Pale blonde curls of crushed shell top her prettily painted face. No. 190L, 2½" to 3½," \$2.95.

One more of the pretty Layton fantasies is "Nina Plumosa" in her lacquered banana leaf gown. Her picturesque bonnet and basket are really little cups that grow on the end of the nut from plumoso palms. Her formal bouquet, buttons and bonnet trim are Swiss chard and mustard seeds painted those blossom colors of rose, red and green. Ballet slippers are some other lacquered seeds, while the head is a daintily painted great northern bean that looks like porcelain. No. 190SX, 4 inches tall, price, \$2.25.



Balata Sap Sally is as odd a product as is her basic material, raw rubber. We always have a good laugh when a box of this gal comes in; there seldom have been two alike, and somehow that exuberance which incites their Jamaican maker into such vast variety, stands out in the personality of homely brown Sal. Four inches tall, No. 261, \$1.15.

Tobacco Jeeter has been mainly brown-dyed cornstalks for years. You see, the first little sharecroppers made by Miss Ada Hurst, entirely from tobacco, crumbled instead of becoming tough with age.

Jeeter is a stringy, big nosed, naughty looking little man, about 3½ inches tall, No. 199HF, 75c.

'Twould be a mistake to be too seriously demanding of odd material dolls. Another one that is sheer fantasy, unsullied by beauty, would be Lucille Sample's "Goo-



hooligans." These fantastic woodland creatures are fashioned of strangely formed twigs, gall balls, odd seed pods and natural growths of this and that, found about Mrs. Sample's California home. Heights vary, 4 to 6 inches. No. 199G, \$1.50.

Strange looking also, but amazingly artistic because their maker was Ada Bridgman Odenrider, are a few "Mahatmas" whose heads are dried snapdragon pods. He is truly a 3 inch treasure, No. 34B, \$2.00.



One more description and then we'll say "And-so-forth."

She's the baby Starfish doll, oh, about of 2 inch span and that doesn't mean girth, but length from point

mean girth, but length from point to point. Sprightly as any static doll could be, Missie Starfish, wrapped into a yarn bathing suit and topped by an overwhelming tassel cap, is mounted on a card with water color waves thereon. She definitely seems to be dancing "By the sea, by the sea." Cute; No. 144S, \$1.50.



The "Etc." might embrace dozens of others. It was in the January Doll Talk, just eight years ago, that the front page featured Odd Materials, listing over a hundred, many for information only, but others available at that time. Our stock, prices, situations in general have undergone many changes since that Vol. 6, No. 4. However, we do still have quite a plump little envelope of that volume with this informative article in it. It would be 15c postpaid.

HAVE SOME PEANUTS?

Did you ever forget the parsley, or tinted sugar lumps—or even napkins? Yes—so have I, and last Doll Talk we failed to include the peanuts! You see, Miss Daisy Welch is a one particularly beloved among doll makers. Daisy has been brave through years of frailty and pain, resourceful in adversity, and certainly sweet.

We have never met, except through letters, but the famous Welch peanut dolls have been a standard line at Kimport for many years. They should have headed the list in Bargain Box C of that \$5.00 Christmas Special. We're sorry, but while after luncheon (feminine for lunch) is too late for parsley, it is never too late for one or a pair of these really cunning school children, 3½ to 4 inches tall, with fiber hair, ink-and-pink features, sturdy wooden feet under wrapped match stick legs; bright hues of crepe paper with buckles of gilt, a collar of lace paper, a posey or school book, all in their smartly made furbishings. No. 199 and 199A for Him and Her, only 75c each.

WE COULD BE WRONG

One sometimes wonders what the limits of "authenticity" via the route of hearsay and imagination will be! Recently, I had a dealer look me straight in the eye and say—"This Bru just had her beautiful big eyes poked in yesterday; so peek through the holes and get a glint of their lovely brown." We suggested that the head would have to be lifted anyway to have the eyes reset, and when the kid shoulder covering was loosened, there was found "Made in Germany." Because the dealer was furious instead of fair, we got the impression that she would willingly have passed this bisque along under false pretenses. Such transactions are bad indeed for the fine business of doll dealing, but luckily they are also rare.

To frankly say, "I do not know" is far from an answer of ignorance; it certainly rates an E plus from many a wise teacher over verbose, muddled, or untidy positive answers. Perhaps you, too, feel a bit on the defensive, even antagonistic, when some veddy, veddy, highly informed person with the lorgnette accent says such things as "This was the child Victoria," "It's porcelain, of course," "Small edition of that particular style, you know," etc., etc.

Why "Biedermeier?" That name has been applied to the pretty glazed china heads which were modeled smooth and hairless, but still they were never sold in the bald state. "Bald" is an ugly name to call these delicately painted treasures; their wigs were always beautifully made and glued to a

black painted patch at the crown of the head. "Ball-head?" Yes, but one Antique catalogue in listing things to auction had one pictured and described as "Bawl Porcelain"—having a head by Bawl! Our title says, "We could be wrong," but I'd like to bet that this high falutin' listing was taken via telephone—some place along the line!

That's wanderin' from "Biedermeier" (1830 and thereabouts), and all the findings date these ball-head chinas as not earlier than the fifties.

Why — "Milliner's Models?" I wonder if the Milliner's Shop exhibit in that fabulous Shelburne Museum could have aught to do with that naming. This Vermont museum of Americana founded by Mrs. J. Watson Webb, was written up with excellent color illustrations in last Feb. 1st issue of Vogue. In a band box type show case was shown what looks like an early Victorian peg wooden, although the style of her gown is definitely Empire (1804-15). I had never heard dolls called "Milliner's Models" until Mrs. Eleanor St. George applied that name to the early, precious, wooden-limbed papier-maches, they with such wide variety of hair styles but with rigid, pencil slim bodies of white kid. At that, it was not the word "Milliner" in connection with this type; we had been brought up on Dickens and Thackeray so were familiar with the earlier meanings of that trade name, even had we been too lazy to check our "unabridged." But were these tiny dolls used as fashion models? Maybe so; the exquisite French Bisques of a later day, those little dressmaker charm-

ers clad to exhibit the lines and furbelows of current style—these were the dolls we had known as Fashion Dolls.

One might continue, throwing doubts and dates at all historic name heads. "Mary Todd" for vertical cure heads that long pre-date that lady's heyday. Why a "Mona Lisa," "Caroline Channing," "Countess Dagmar," etc.? Since well-accepted versions of such names do help to identify the many styles of heads—why again should we object? You see, We (really) could be wrong!

We are truly indebted to that remarkable woman, Eleanor St. George herself, for sending to Doll Talk some of the notes assembled on this subject. That indefatigable author has a mind more vigorously busy than her frail body might indicate. Some references which would add additional weight have been deleted in the interests of space saving, but here below is her contribution.

MILLINER'S MODELS

by

Eleanor St. George

Some collectors who are apparently unaware that the English language is a live and growing thing have criticized the term "Milliner's Models" for certain dolls with papier-mache heads, stiff, unjointed bodies and wooden arms and legs. They seem to think that the word "milliner" means only one who designs or makes hats for women.

These critics could readily have found the various uses of the word "Milliner" by consulting any of the standard dictionaries from

Dr. Samuel Johnson to the new Oxford edition.

The original form and meaning was "Milaner," a native of Milan, later coming to mean a man who imported and sold small articles and cutlery made in Milan. Still later, it was applied to persons, generally women, who supplied clothing to both men and women.

The following quotations were furnished me by the Reference Department of Baker Memorial Library of Dartmouth.

(A) The earliest specimen of a milliner's bill is on a chalk tablet from Chaldea, dating 2800 B. C. The inscription enumerates 92 robes and tunics, 14 of which were perfumed with myrrh, aloes and cassiay.

(B) "To the Millioner for one yard qtr. of conterfete cloth of gold." (1573)

(C) "A Frenchman and a Myllaner in saint Martins, and sels shirts, bandes, bracelets, jewels and such pretty toies for Gentlewomen." (1593)

(D) Shakespeare. Winter's Tale. "No Milliner can so fit his customers with Gloues." (1611)

(E) "The Milliner furnishes them with Holland, Cambrick, Lawn and Lace of all sorts, and makes these materials into Smocks, Aprons, Tippetts, Handkerchiefs, Neckties, Ruffles, Mobs, Caps, Dressed-Heads, with as many et-ceteras as would reach from Charing-Cross to the Royal Exchange." (1750)

No one as yet knows where these dolls were made—perhaps they never will know for we have yet things to discover about dolls. Much is still buried in the mists of

the unrecorded past and may remain so.

Max von Boehn is authority for the fact that papier-mache was first used for dolls' heads in 1820 and this, with their varied hair-do's running from that year to the style of the 1860's, seems pretty well to fix their date. Judging by the number and varieties of their hair-do's, they might almost have been called "hairdresser's models," except that there is no evidence on record of their having been so used.

The "Milliner's Models" are part of the long line of so-called "Fashion Dolls" that come down to the present day. These range in size from 6 inches up to large ones of 26 or 27 inches, perhaps larger. Some few were men. Their original frocks seem to have been net and those dressed in other materials have probably been re-dressed.

IMPORTANT EXHIBIT

The San Francisco Doll Club has come through with another distinguished exhibition, this time at the beautiful M. H. DeYoung Memorial Museum. Dolls and furniture exhibited all belonged to club members and included examples of many of the choicest antique classifications. Noted were Italian creche, early wood and papier-maches, Montanari and other English wax dolls, unusual ceramic types, and good old American Greiners!

This ambitious S. F. unit, by the way, is determined to establish a Doll Museum; some funds are already reserved for this project. Both loan and gift collections are sometimes available when there is an appreciative and discriminating group with whom to work.

MISS NELLIE MYERS

Sad news comes along with the cheery in your many wonderful letters. We do pass along in Correspondence Clippings and other stories a fraction of the enthusiasm and helpful suggestions which mean so much to us.

But it is information of a loss to our Doll World this time; Miss Nellie Myers, who was in a class by herself when the product was character dolls of silk stockinette, died last fall. Miss Nellie had never hinted to us of the malady which was fatally closing in on her, but continued to send us "Cap'n Jenks," "Johnathan Jo," the old gardener, her irresistibly homey "Country Doctor" and others. The sister with whom she lived in Chicago told us of her passing when one of our orders for Miss Myers' characteristic, real people, had to be returned, unfilled.

PLUS A BOOK REVIEW

"When the postman arrived with a box marked 'fragile' from Kimport a few minutes ago, I tore open the wrappings more eagerly than a child on Christmas morning.

"Needless to say, I was very much pleased with my 'Mary Todd' and am looking forward to January 29 when she and Mr. Lincoln will serve as conversation pieces for the sixty-fifth anniversary luncheon of my reading club. I am sure they will be as enthusiastically received as the review of the book, 'Mary Lincoln, Biography of a Marriage.'"

—Ruth Greer, Illinois.



LATE ARRIVALS

Above are half dozen little ladies—some that we've had before, but the English countryside girl is new. "She's called, little Buttercup, dear little Buttercup," partly because of that fresh "Norah Wellings" complexion and partly because of the butter yellow coloring which enriches her felt and velvet costume. Oldfashioned laced bodice, big poke bonnet over saucy pigtails, Miss B. is quite a beauty in her Anglo-Saxon way. She should be the answer to "What can you suggest in an inexpensive, real English doll?" 8½ inch size, modeled and painted cloth face, No. 296A, \$3.75.

In the center panel are four, from a group in Mexican regional

dress. These olive complexioned girls are perhaps dressed for market, a happy South-of-the-Border custom which is even more social than commercial. Pedigree page identifies them as loyally costumed citizens of Tehuantepec, Toluca, Zapotec, etc. Faces are modeled cloth; materials a bit coarse, but perfect for the village and country folk they represent. Eight inches tall, No. 359, \$1.50. A group is so effective—or you could use them as gifts; excellent for a child's collection—so how about a group of four for \$5.00? We'll call it No. 359-4.

For an adult collector, definitely is the nursing mother, a most artistically hand-made peasant of silk stocking, holding her swaddled cherubic infant. Real hair, astonishingly life-like face, expressive of the Hungarian gypsy folk from whom she descends. After months of waiting, sixteen of this doll, plus her wooden stool, just arrived. Yes,

we would call her a conversation piece. No. 204B, \$14.95.

In the Hungarian shipment were boxes and boxes of the exotic bride who, years ago, we named "Zori." Her dark eyes are cast coquettishly sidewise and she holds her pretty composition head proudly under the great crown headdress, so festively bedecked with flowers, beads, sequins, and embroidered ribbon streamers. Her fringed apron is almost solid with like trimmings; short, full skirt, likewise, and so is the scarlet bodice which fits alluringly snug over the puff sleeved, white waist. Gay stockings look hand knitted, and her pedigree page tells a bit about wedding customs in her native Sarkoz. Over 9 inches to the top of her crown, No. 205, \$6.95.



What an overstuffed looking pair of baby dumplings — Gustav and Birgitta from Sweden, from the village of Mora is suggested on their pedigree page. Only 3 inches tall, jointed, their material

is flesh tint plastic which has taken rosy cheeks, bright eyes of black on white and little red lip paint perfection. Yellow, red, blue, with black, white and a bit of green makes gay their native costumes. Inexpensive, but still collector class, No. 956B, the pair, \$1.95.



When shiny, choc'la' brown Gurki arrived from the Union of South Africa, we had quite a bit of fun getting acquainted with him. "Just feel how soft that fur is—wonder what kind it is? Plastic buttons, aren't they? Sewed on with porcelain beads." Then when we wigged his arms and legs around we found that Gurki boy was addicted to the Charleston or Black-Bottom or some such acrobatic dance pose. You too will enjoy this 4½ inch Swazi boy, for whom some natives

did such a lot of bead stringing and fur dressing. The doll proper is brown plastic, but his costuming is primitive handwork. No. 102S, \$1.95.

Since you took so kindly to those pretty 6 inch Swiss girls (No. 1053 at \$3.75), some of you will really love their 10 inch sisters, made of the same flesh like composition. They wear similar felt and silk costumes in beautiful hues, each dressed to identify the canton from which she comes. Exquisite hands, swivel neck, soft mohair wigs above really beautiful faces. These collection treasures from Switzerland are No. 1054, \$8.25.

New shipment, just unpacked and back orders filled, on those justly popular 6 inch Gwenyd and Llewelyn from Wales. They're enamled to look like porcelain. He's No. 262 and she, 262A, at \$3.95 each.

ANOTHER BLESSING

At Christmas time, there came a dollar and this letter from one of our rich and scenic state capitols. It gave to us here at Kimport one more solemn reason for that love and gratitude which should not be merely a yuletide light, but something that glows and shines through the years.

"Dear Doll People:—I am from far-away Finland, Europe, and always been interested in dolls. Your miniature magazine is just so wonderful it is hard to believe it is true. To find a magazine in this big, cruel world which is surrounded only by enthusiastic friends. That is marvelous! Please put my name on your list."

Mrs. T. J. Kukkamaki.

UNDER "FEDERATION"

Often some collector writes in to Kimport for a suggestion on how to contact — "socially" — others of like interests. All over the country are various independent little club groups who work together on charitable and cultural projects, enjoying the fun of sharing their doll ideas. And then there is the national organization — "United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc.," for whose officers we take delight in vouching; yes, Kimport has had contacts with every one of them throughout the years.

Here is the list of officers who have been elected to serve until August of 1955:

President, Miss Nellie D. Mc-Lauchlan; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. R. C. Siebert; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. R. A. Loving; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Allen Besch; Correspondence Secretary, Miss Regina Sherer; Treasurer, Miss S. Iola Rose; Historian, Miss Virginia Geck; Librarian, Mrs. John Brentlinger.

IT'S MABEL

After we inexcusably left "Agnes" off of our very own list of name-head chinas, there were several good letters telling about this girl, but only one from M. Perry of Washington, D. C., who was the first to write—"Yes, there is another one; her name is MABEL. I have her." Well, it so happens we honestly never have had a Mabel. There was another suggestion. Somebody thought they had seen such a china head with "Just Me" thereon. And this goes double, we surely did never even hear of that one.

SPEAKING OF ANTIQUES

That's what Mrs. McKim and an early Lenci are up to, but neither of us seem to take too seriously the idea that we gals are actually so classed! The Lenci theatrical, we were told, had been made as a commemorative of the young Mistinguette, but it does look like the late Fanny Brice did, doing her famous "Mon Homme" song. There is a patent registered of Sept. 8, 1921, not imprinted on this doll, but registered, and she would be of the early twenties. (Me?—Gay Nineties.) Twenty-five inches tall, fascinating and rare, this lady of the footlights is felt with ash blonde wig. Her handsomely, hand-embroidered wool shawl is a light, brassy yellow. No. A64, \$45.00.

After "Fanny" we're going to list quite a few who survived the holidays. 'Hope you received a Christmas check that is earmarked for dolls, or that a celebration is due because December bills are all paid, or maybe putting some money into good dolls is a new leaf turning in with 1954. A few were left over from the enclosure sheet of last time, but most are new offerings of old treasures. We'll start modestly and work up to the ultra exclusive set.

Dear little solid-head with braid-



ed hair wig; stuffed body, unglazed shoulder head and limbs, scant 4 inches tall, No. A114, \$4.50. Her Mamma, same type, but with done-up hair, is 5 inches tall. Both are perfect; undressed, have heels on their shoes. Lady one is No. A115, \$6.50.

An 8 inch Swiss, ball jointed doll, circa 1918; not dressed, shows patent number and "Made in Switzerland" marking. Must be a flapper as she wears that bucket shaped hat of World War I days. This one is missing one forearm. These all metal ones sell for around \$20.00 when perfect. No. A332, \$7.50.

Funny also is an 8 inch Schoenhut Circus Clown, of a bit earlier date. Jolly, in all original condition but battered a bit by use. No. A85, \$4.50.

Would you care to work over a wreck—a delightful one? He is a papier-mache headed Punchinello with early type brown glass eyes;

a squeak box body, the cutest fat wooden legs and a tin cymbal left tacked onto one hand. Clothes all usable and much preferable to new ones. Circa 1880, No. A32X, \$5.00.

Jointed wood and composition, souvenir type, but big doll brought home from France by a soldier in 1918. Eyes sleep (reluctantly), gray human hair. Original red, white and blue frock. Someone will have had the counterpart of this 19" Cherie. No. A90, \$7.50.

We get old paper dolls sometimes; now have in some "Dolly Dingles"—from 1923 to '32 which we will list, if interested.

From Good Housekeeping (1909) "Little Louise" color pages, extra heavy; "Brother Ned" and a "College Cousin" at \$1.50 each, and "Friend Cinderella" and "Friend Rastus" at \$1.00 each.

From the Boston Globe there is a handsome series of pictures, background and frame, which cuts and bends to form a little shaped mounting with mitered corners. Figures cut separately and place at given spots as on the "Canals of Venice"; gondolas in different sizes fit into slots in the foreground. It is a series of nine, size 10x15" sheets, each with quite different foreign figures in full color. Aside from the Venetian one, there is—Amsterdam, Jerusalem, Interlachen, London Bridge, Dublin, St. Petersburg, Paris and one from the Rhine. Dated 1907. No. P-9, \$5.95.

From Woman's Home Companion, 1918, four numbers in delightfully workable cut-outs, "Little Folks Own Circus — remember

when? No. P-4, all four sheets, \$3.00.

From paper to heavy celluloid, turtle marked, and he's a suntan hued tot with prettily dimpled fingers and toes; blue eyes (painted), jointed at hips and shoulders; perfect, 11½" tall, No. A116, \$3.00.

We must begin to climb as after all, it is much more difficult (for us, too) to turn down a rare or lovely one.

The only Greiner we have at present is much played with and rather limp; nice, small size, though, only 16 inches tall. Leather hands and arms, faded black cotton stockings, old, old underwear and a dress of brown plaid gingham. The head is in original condition with complexion badly scarred, but no cracks or dents; could easily be covered with a thin coat of proper shade of paint; the eyes are perfect—need no retouching at all, and personally, we like them just in original condition better than touched up. Label is gone from the shoulders, but there is an oblong showing where it had been. No. AS233, \$34.00.

Bonnet Head? We currently have in several of the more unusual old models. "Candlewick" has a double row of pinhead size balls all around a blue turban with slightly domed top, also three ball tassels. This sets high on a mass of small blonde curls that surround a pretty white bisque face. Elaborate gilt and scroll trim on the yoke. Original old legs and body, new parian arms. Head is 2¼ inches high, doll, 11 inches; lovely old hand-made clothes. No. A89, \$34.00.

We designate the bonnet head that is like the cap worn by French Revolutionists as "La Marseille." It pulls from the back up to a peak with pom-pom that fastens down center front. This particular Kimport dolly wears a blue one; cute, blue-eyed blonde, all original and perfect, 7½ inches tall. The collar and front are repousse and gillt trimmed; herringbone weave in her white bisque legs; old dotted Swiss dress. No. A74, \$17.50.

Name Heads? Sometimes months passed by and we've nary a one of these pretty old china heads with the Peter Pan collars and girl names on their chests. Currently here are two black haired heads only, little 2¼ inch high "Marian," No. A15, \$3.95, and 5 inch "Ethel," No. A954, \$16.50.

There are three complete dolls, all with home-made, slender bodies. Twenty-two inch "Esther" with 5 inch head has best make replica arms and a proper period dress of wine crepe-de-chine and panne velvet. No. A18, \$30.00.

Blonde "Dorothy" wears an ash-pink brocade with old-fashioned appliqued medallions. She has gray eyes; 4½ inch head; 21 inches over all; prettily cupped hands on plump arms. No. A16, \$30.00.

The other big name is a "Dorothy" brunette, 5 inch head, 21 inches over all; original old arms with broken thumbs. Royal Blue china silk skirt in four tiers is worn with a velvet bodice. The main value is in the head, of course, and by the way, every one in this group is perfect, no cracks or chips, and all except tiny "Marian" have the pink line above

their pretty blue eyes. Jet haired Dorothy is No. A17, \$28.00.

Better be getting into that ultra aristocratic bracket for which we have selected one each — china, bisque, wood, wax, papier-mache, and mechanical.

For china, the rare one is an all original and perfect ball head lady only 7½ inches tall. Her blonde wig is parted clear through from center forehead to nape of her neck with braided coils over both ears. There are tiny pink lines between blonde brows and blue eyes on her 2 inch deep shouldered head. High glaze, nice old arms and legs with rose line garters and tassels on darkest brown boots. Precious hand-made clothing is yellowed with age—right close to one hundred years. No. A54, \$72.50.

The French Bisque is also a "ball head," which pre-dates those with the cut-off tops under their wigs. We have found, by the way, that when this practice went into effect to save weight and hence duty expense, the heads of German manufacture follow a more nearly horizontal line, while the cut of the French Bisques slants more obliquely from crown downward. Among the most beautiful of all old dolls is this type with closed lips, set-on ears and feather-line brows above blown glass eyes. "Claire's" dimpled bisque hands are as perfect as her plump shouldered head. Clean kid body has leather feet but not wasp waist; is more the child type. Her luxuriant human hair is not only naturally curly but of a rich red-brown. Becomingly dressed in old sprig printed white lawn with tucked yoke and bertha and three flounces

DOLL TALK

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

Subscription is \$1.00 for two years.

Address:

KIMPORT DOLLS
Independence, Mo.

on her skirt. Twenty-one inches tall, No. A52, \$85.00.

The wood is three times as wonderful—because—it is a group of three dolls, priceless old peg woodens of a pre-Victorian era! They abide on a 9 inch seat, flanked by wooden urns on columns about 6 inches high, under wooden arches, against a background of black velvet and contemporary print wall paper. Spotted amidst this formal setting are dozens of faded yellow but crisp little straw flowers and other hundred and thirty year old milliner's blossoms. Five inches deep, 15 long and almost 11 high is the wooden shadow box.

And what of the dolls themselves? Two are ladies with those part-of-the-head back combs; between them sits a girl but her dress is as long and her sleeves as enormous as theirs. Heights seated is 5 and 3½ inches respectively, so I'd say they were about 6½ and 4½ inch dolls. They are early type with full bosom and short waist, peg jointed at knees and elbows as well as at hips and shoulders. They have pertly pointed wee noses, enamel finish and every shred of their Georgian style

dressess seems to be original. This picturesque setting and group would date back to the 1820's. No. A87, \$165.00.

For the wax we offer a petal pink complexioned baby with inset blonde hair, short, with a feeling of wind-blown bangs from one side. She has very deep shoulders; arms that go well above the elbows with just little dab of cloth between the wax shoulders and wax arm tops. Legs also are wax and in perfect condition; like the arms, they have the holes through, and are sewed onto the cloth body. Even the little toe nails and dimples on the hands, finger nails and all are perfect. Deep, blue glass eyes are the long, narrow, elliptical shape. Exquisitely dressed in a long christening robe with dozens of yards of old Valenciennes lace and lots of hand sewing on it, also a hand-bound flannel pinning blanket. Sixteen inches tall, No. A53, \$92.50.

For this round-up of rare ones, our papier-mache will be one from Eleanor St. George's collection, an 1830 lady with huge hair puffs at the sides and atop, that most eccentric fad of all hair styles. This doll has a braid across just below the center puff of hair, at front and back, all utterly fantastic. The nose is rather flat; they came that way sometimes; original painting, just as it was some century and a quarter ago. Hands are wooden, as are the legs, with green painted slippers; leather body, all in excellent, original condition. The old underwear has been strengthened and a brocade skirt added over the tattered one underneath.

It is a piece of fine, gold colored silk that is definitely as old as the doll. Boat neck bodice was left intact, although it is badly worn but original, as it should be. She is large, 13½ inches tall, No. A811, \$110.00.

As to the musical, mechanical, she is a beauty in full bridal dress, made in Limoges, France, as denoted by the marking on the bisque head. There also is the name of the French company, a number 6, and even her name, "Alecie," imprinted. Her blue eyes are extra large; lips parted and smiling; crystal drop rings in her pierced ears. Height of the doll is 19 inches or 23 including the base on which she stands. It is a key wind that plays a very pretty tune. The head turns from side to side, each arm does a different thing, the one with bouquet, and the one with nothing in it. The chest sort of moves up and down to give an effect of breathing, but all of this very slowly and in routine; no two things happen at once. She moves one arm quite a little while, then turns the head once, etc. No. A117, \$175.00.

YOUTHFUL ENTHUSIASM

"I have given all my dolls to our little City Museum. Of course, I had to have a 'hobby,' so have turned to paper dolls. Have only a few, as I've so recently started. I have the book, 'Paper Dolls—A Guide to Costume,' by Clara Fawcett, and hope to have a collection someday. I am now 81 years of age, but I must still have 'dolls' you know in some sort of fashion."

—Mrs. Vinnie Hoover, Colo.

CONCERNING ANOTHER HOBBYIST

So often we could start a story by saying, "Doll Collectors are the most interesting people" For instance, Angela Peterson sent in a change of address from being a Recreational Director in Waco, Texas, to Carswell Air Force Base, where she is the new Social Director of the Service Club for enlisted personnel.

In an accompanying news release, there was a handsome picture of Mrs. Peterson with two Korean dolls that had been presented to her while serving at an army base there. Yes, the war hadn't started when she was the only woman at an army base in Korea. She was one of the last white women evacuated from that country prior to the outbreak of hostilities. When there, she was sent as recreation chairman to Chinhae, a southern port about sixty-five miles east of Pusan. Officers and enlisted men at the base went to Taegu and Masan for dolls to give her as birthday presents.

No wonder in her collection of around 400 dolls the Korean ladies are favored to pose in the illustration!

There was a sentence in Angela's letter too that got marked for a Correspondence Clipping, so we'll just include it here: "You are right, that Ivory Doctor Doll is no beauty, but then it is evident she has a stomach ache and who gives with her best expression when in such misery"

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"I happen to have known the Winnie Langley whose letter you printed, but have not seen her since she was a little girl in Philadelphia." —Bess Kendrick, Pa.

"As always, your monthly packages, this time the Costa Rican couple, delighted me so much. It never ceases to amaze me how Kimport always locates such different and charming dolls."

—Margaret E. Dorn, D. C.

"In the German bisque named heads, I've seen Florodora, Queen Louise, Lilly, Daisy, Alma, Mabel, Diana and Darling. The more one learns about dolls, the more intriguing they become!"

—Grace L. Nease, Kansas.

"I have a little rubber doll—arms molded with nursing bottle — all one piece like a Frozen Charlotte—that the other students autographed all over and gave to me our first Christmas in training. This doll held my cap for the next twelve years I was active in nursing, so now he is a prize for memories in my collection.—Dr. Mary Ruth Winebrenner, Indiana.

"We're hoping our grandson will be home by Christmas. Please send the Korean dolls to me, and I do hope he will like this bridal pair; I'm certain that I shall."

—Margaret Bohaker, Mass.

"John Adams is a lovely doll and as he is an 'ancestor' of mine, I'm doubly interested in him."

—Mrs. C. R. Yount, Calif.

"I wish I could describe the pleasure that the dolls purchased, gave on Christmas morning. It must be a thrill to work with such interesting collections as you people have." —Elsie Murphy, Penna.

"This Israeli line, like the dolls of the Near East Industries of yore, shows so much individuality that one may have several, without monotony." —Helen L. Plants, W. Va.

"Many thanks for the furniture and stands which I requested in lieu of the bonus 13th doll. The furniture is so cute and I have dolls to occupy each piece."

—Mrs. Ruth R. Smith, N. Mex.

"Many years ago, I saw a Swedish troll doll with a tail, and have wanted one for myself ever since—so, three cheers to Kimport!"

—Mrs. R. G. Bone, Illinois.

"I'm interested in the German Bisque Kewpie as my father, now 76, went to Europe before the first World War for the Borgfeldt Company and saw to the making of them. I have an original plaster cast and three first run Kewpies." —Carolyn Keeneth Gallagher, N. Y.

"I am so pleased with my book, 'Your Dolls and Mine,' by Janet Johl. I never saw such a wealth of information on dolls as is contained in that one book."

—Mrs. Rementa Foltz, Mo.

"Am using plastic freezer bags for dolls' covers and aren't they just the thing—come in all sizes and last so much better than cellophane. —Anne B. Davis, Oregon.

KIMPORT



WILL SHOW IN



SEATTLE

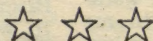
We are proud to announce this Kimport showing of Dolls - Foreigns from All Over the World, Artistic American Creations, Historic Portraits, Small and Inexpensive Novelties - but all collector class, and of Important Antiques.

Time is scheduled for the full week of March 1st thru the 6th.

Place is Frederick & Nelsons - a truly outstanding store of the Northwest.

The hundreds of dolls will be set up in Youth Hall, adjacent to their Toy Department, but as always with a Kimport Show, every doll is marked with it's price tag. All are definitely for sale.

If you are not in this territory, where you could attend, perhaps you could alert some friend in the Seattle area. It would be a favor to them, and to us, as these store exhibits offer a rare opportunity for collectors to select unusual things at the fairest of prices.



ATTEND! In so much as His Highness, Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh has been fashioned by Libertys of London, this Royal doll is, as this day, available to all ye who have heretofore acquired Her Royal Highness, Elizabeth II, and may desire (to the tune of about 7 pounds) to purchase said Consort in crimson velvet Coronation cloak and crown. Ten inches tall, in naval uniform with much gold braid and wearing also the blue ribbon of the Order of the Garter, his "ermine" caped Highness is No. 258D - \$20.00.

Elizabeth in purple robe over white, also from Libertys, is No. 258 - \$20.00. Quantities are limited.

SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

KIMPORT DOLLS, Independence, Mo.